

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 IO-13 LAB-04
NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15
OES-07 /148 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/ICD:CANGEVINE:CA
APPROVED BY EB/ICD:EAWENDT
IO-EBRUCE (DRAFT)
AGRICULTURE-WDOERING
TREASURY-BBENTON (DRAFT)
COMMERCE-TMACONE
AGRICULTURE-GWANAMAKER
-----034642 061054Z /21

R 060024Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMODITY MEETINGS; INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMODITIES - - - -
REFERENCE: UNCTAD A) ROME 6915 B) GENEVA 5839
C) GENEVA 4149 D) GENEVA 4405

1. ALTHOUGH FIFTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE (AHIC) FOR THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES
DECIDED TO INVITE THE CHAIRMEN OF THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS
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ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES TO ATTEND THE SIXTH MEETING
OF THE AHIC, WE SHARE VIEW EXPRESSED IN REFTELS A AND B
THAT CHAIRMEN SHOULD NOT BE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.
GEORGE WANAMAKER OF THE U.S., CHAIRMAN OF THE VEGETABLE
OILS AND OILSEEDS MEETING, HAS NOT RECEIVED AN INVITATION
BUT WILL DECLINE IF ONE IS OFFERED.

2. FIFTH MEETING OF AHIC DID NOT CALL FOR CHAIRMEN OF COMMODITY MEETINGS TO MAKE THEIR OWN REPORTS; IT ONLY AUTHORIZED THEM TO INTRODUCE REPORTS APPROVED BY GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT MEETINGS CONCERNED. THIS WAS

A COMPROMISE DECISION AND WE ARE PERSUADED BY REFTEL D THAT ANY ATTEMPTS TO VIOLATE IT BY GIVING CHAIRMEN A LARGER ROLE SHOULD BE VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED. THE READY AVAILABILITY OF THE LAST REPORT OF EACH COMMODITY MEETING NOTED IN REFTEL B MAKES REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMEN UNNECESSARY. OF GREATER CONCERN TO US IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT EITHER INTRODUCTORY OR SUMMARY STATEMENTS WOULD BE USED BY CHAIRMEN SYMPATHETIC TO THE G-77 TO SUPPORT AHIC INVOLVEMENT IN INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS.

3. FOR GENEVA. WE HOPE THAT THE MISSION CAN WORK OUT A COORDINATED GROUP B APPROACH TO THIS ISSUE CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREED LARGER STRATEGY OF PREVENTING THE AHIC FROM ATTEMPTING TO DEAL WITH SUBSTANTIVE COMMODITY ISSUES. WE WOULD PREFER THAT CHAIRMEN NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE AHIC MEETING. IF THEY OR MEMBERS OF THEIR DELEGATIONS DO PARTICIPATE, WE SUGGEST THAT THEIR ROLE BE LIMITED TO NOTING THE AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS WHICH FAITHFULLY EXPRESS THE VIEWS OF PARTICIPANTS AND ACCURATELY RECORD THE CAREFULLY NEGOTIATED DECISIONS OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETINGS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT EITHER CHAIRMEN OR MEMBERS OF THEIR DELEGATION SHOULD ATTEMPT TO SUPPLEMENT APPROVED REPORTS OR ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS.

4. FOR ROME. PLEASE INFORM BRITO THAT U.S. SHARES HIS VIEWS ON ROLE OF COMMODITY CHAIRMEN AND THAT, IF REQUESTED WANAMAKER WILL RESPOND SIMILARLY REGARDING VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS GROUP. U.S. LIKEWISE BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT DECISIONS ON COMMODITY ISSUES MUST BE MADE BY COMMODITY GROUPS, NOT BY AHIC, WHICH HAS NEITHER AUTHORITY NOR COMPETENCE TO ADDRESS THOSE ISSUES. IN U.S. VIEW, AHIC INVOLVEMENT IN COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS WOULD NOT HELP TO RESOLVE SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS WHICH THOSE DISCUSSIONS FACE.

CHRISTOPHER

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